



State of Utah


DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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July 17, 2000

TO: Minerals File

FROM: D. Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor 

RE: Documentation of July 12, 2000 Meeting, Reclamation Requirements and Post Mining Land Use Change Discussions, Hecla Mining Company, Escalante Silver Mine, M/021/004, Iron County, Utah

Date of Meeting: July 12, 2000
Location: Division Offices
Time of Meeting: 1:00 - 2:35 p.m.
Participants: David Suhr, Gary Gamble - Hecla Mining Company; Mary Ann Wright, Wayne Hedberg, Lynn Kunzler and Doug Jensen - DOGM

Purpose of Meeting: The purpose of this meeting was to discuss possible resolution and solutions to the impasse that has become apparent between Hecla and DOGM regarding remaining reclamation responsibilities and the current status of the post mining Land Use Change proposal from Dixie Cable.

On July 12, 2000, a meeting was held between the representatives identified above to discuss the present stalemate between DOGM and Hecla over remaining reclamation responsibilities and the pending post mining land use change request from Dixie Cable. The key points/issues discussed and the understanding and/or commitment reached on each issue is summarized as follows:

- **Condition #1 - Other required permits/clearances**
Hecla agreed to discuss this matter further with Dixie Cable to try and obtain the requested permitting information to the extent possible.
- **Condition #2 - Title & property ownership dispute**
Hecla has not received any feedback from the BLM to date regarding the disputed property. However, Mr. Suhr indicated that the section of property under the ownership dispute may not involve any land that currently has structures or facilities located on it. Hecla will investigate this matter further to clarify and provide the Division with updated information.
- **Condition #3 - Updated surface map of disturbed areas under Hecla's control**
We briefly discussed the map (Figure 1) provided with Hecla's May 22, 2000, response. It does not show disturbed area boundaries per se, although the property ownership boundaries were outlined. Disturbed acreage figures were not shown on Figure 1.

- **Concern #1- *Waste rock pile reclamation***
Hecla and DOGM staff estimated that the remaining waste material in the pile amounts to approximately 2000-2500 cubic yards and probably affects 1.5 to 2.0 acres. Discussions involved several possible reclamation scenarios. It was agreed that Hecla would perform reclamation of the waste rock pile, but the final proposal would be determined following an onsite inspection with DOGM personnel.
- **Concern #2 - *Reclamation of the ore stockpile area, the crusher pocket and pocket feeder***
Hecla indicated that they were not familiar with Dixie Cable's plans for these features, but that Dixie Cable had assumed responsibility for same with the sale of the property. We explained that Hecla's reclamation responsibility under the DOGM permit did not automatically transfer to Dixie Cable by signing a sales contract. Because we have not approved of the proposed post-mining land use change or a permit transfer, the reclamation obligation for features that do not have an approved post-mining land use remain under Hecla's responsibility. We requested that Hecla contact Dixie Cable representatives for clarification as to their intentions. A revision to the original land use change application will be necessary if Dixie Cable proposes to do something different from the original proposal. If the remaining facilities will be used for continued mining or milling related activities, then a permit transfer (or a new permit) and a reclamation bond may be required from Dixie Cable..
- **Concern #3 - *Historic mine headframe***
Mary Ann Wright raised the question regarding safeguards for preserving the historic headframe which remains over the plugged shaft at the mine site. Hecla indicated that they were aware of this feature, but were not sure if Dixie Cable was familiar with its significance or if they had plans to preserve its historical significance. Hecla agreed to contact Dixie Cable for their position.

We ended the meeting all agreeing that these discussions were very helpful and that we would arrange an onsite meeting with Hecla personnel within the next 7- 10 days.

jb
cc: David Suhr, HMC
Gary Gamble, HMC
Mary Ann Wright
Doug Jensen
Lynn Kunzler
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